REMARKS

Applicants hereby add new claims 49-50 and cancel claims 43-45 and 47-48. Accordingly, claims 1-42, 46, and 49-50 are pending in the present application.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner and the Supervisory Patent Examiner for conducting the telephone interviews. An Interview Summary accompanies this response.

Claims 1-3, 6-13-16-22, 24-25, 27-29, 33-37, 41-45 and 47-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 5,842,118 to Wood, Jr. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,649,296 to MacLellan et al. Claims 4-5, 14-15, 23, 26, 30-32, 38-40 and 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over Wood in view of MacLellan and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,313,737 to Freeze et al.

Claim 1 now recites limitations of previously pending claim 43. It is defined that the *circuitry of the housing comprises a transmitter configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal*. Claim 1 further recites the *communication station remotely located with respect to the housing and configured to radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal*. The prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest generation of a modulated signal within circuitry of the housing and radiation of a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the modulated signal within a communication station remotely located with respect to the housing.

On page 13 of the Office Action, it is stated that all subject matter in claim 43 is disclosed in claim 1 and therefore rejections of all subject matters expressed in claim 43 are met by the references in associated arguments applied to rejections of claim 1.

Applicants disagree. Initially, Applicants submit limitations of claim 43 were not disclosed (nor expressly claimed) by previously pending claim 1. Claim 43 recited the circuitry of the housing comprising *a **transmitter** configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a **modulated signal***. Previously pending claim 1 was silent with regards to any limitations of a transmitter, modulation or the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal. Accordingly, the statements on page 13 are in error and any rejections set forth with respect to the previously pending claim 1 fail to address the limitations of previously submitted new dependent claim 43.

Referring to Fig. 1 of Wood, *all modulation and transmission is provided within a single unit described as an interrogator unit*. In particular, Fig. 5 of Wood shows RF circuitry 54 within the interrogator 26, and as shown in Fig. 7, the RF circuitry 54 of the interrogator 26 provides both modulation and radiation in a single device. Wood fails to disclose or suggest limitations of claim 1.

Referring to Fig. 2 of MacLellan, modulator 202 and transmitor 203 are both provided within a single interrogator unit 103 providing modulation of an information signal and transmitting the modulated signal via an antenna 204 as set forth in column 3, lines 36-42.

The prior art references of Wood and MacLellan fail to disclose or suggest singularly or in combination the housing comprising a transmitter configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal and the communication station remotely located with respect to the housing and configured to radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal comprising the

modulated signal. Claim 1 recites limiations not shown or suggested in the prior art of record and cliam 1 is allowable for at least this reason.

The claims which depend from independent claim 1 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

For example, claim 10 recites the communication circuitry includes a plurality of transceivers individually coupled with one of the housing and the communication station. An exemplary embodiment of the transceivers are illustrated in Fig. 7 of the pending application. On page 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner apparently relies upon a diversity switch of Wood as disclosed in Fig. 7, column 13, lines 8-33. Such teachings of transmit switch 78 merely provide transmission using one of a plurality of antennas X1, X2 as set forth in column 5, lines 45-47. *A diversity switch in no fair interpretation discloses a plurality of transceivers* as defined in claim 10. Such diversity switch within the interrogator also fails to define *the plurality of transceivers individually coupled with one of the housing and the communication station* as positively recited. Claim 10 recites limitations not shown nor suggested by the prior art and claim 10 is allowable for at least this reason.

Claim 11 recites the circuitry of the *housing comprises a transmitter* configured to generate the *forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal* and the *communication station remotely located with respect to the housing* and including an *antenna confgiured to radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal* comprising a modulated signal. The teachings of Wood or MacLellan taken alone or in combiantion fail to disclose or suggest limitations of claim 11

including the housing and the communication station and claim 11 is allowable for at least this reason.

The claims which depend from independent claim 11 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Claim 21 recites the *circuitry of the housing* is configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a *modulated signal* and plural communication stations *remotely located with respect to the housing* and individually configured to radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal *comprising a modulated signal*. Wood or MacLellan taken alone or in combination fail to disclose or suggest limitations of claim 21 and claim 21 is allowable for at least this reason.

The claims which depend from independent claim 21 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Referring to claim 26, Wood or MacLellan taken alone or in combination fail to disclose or suggest the coaxial RF cable as specifically recited. On page 8 of the Action, it is stated that MacLellan discloses a coaxial RF cable associated with communication station (Fig. 1, LAN 102 associated with coaxial cable passing RF frequency signal). Applicants have electronically searched MacLellan and have failed to uncover any coax teachings. During the interviews, it was indicated that apparently the mere teachings of a LAN were relied upon as disclosing a coaxial RF cable. As discussed with the Supervisory Patent Examiner, other types of LANs exist and the mere disclosure of a LAN

fails to disclose or suggest the claimed coaxial RF cable defined in claim 26. Claim 26 recites limitations not shown nor suggested in the prior art and claim 26 is allowable for at least this reason.

The claims which depend from independent claim 26 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Claim 27 recites generating a forward link communication signal *comprising a modulated signal using the circuitry within the housing*, receiving the forward link communication signal within a *communication station of the interrogator remotely located from the housing, and radiating a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal using the communication station*. The teachings of Wood or MacLellan taken alone or in combination fail to disclose or suggest the claimed generating, receiving and radiating specified by claim 27. Claim 27 recites limitations not shown nor suggested in the prior art and claim 27 is allowable for at least this reason.

The claims which depend from independent claim 27 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Independent claim 35 recites generating a *forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal using the circuitry within the housing of the interrogator, receiving* the forward link communication signal from the communication circuitry within the communication station, and *radiating a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal using the communication station*. Claim 35 recites

limitations not shown nor suggested by Wood or MacLellan. Claim 35 is allowable over the prior art.

The claims which depend from independent claim 35 are in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claim as well as for their own respective features which are neither shown nor suggested by the cited art.

Applicants include new claims 49 and 50 which include limitations of previous claim 11 and respective dependent claims 19 and 20. Allowance of new claims 49 and 50 is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims.

The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned if the Examiner believes such would facilitate prosecution of the present application. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time during normal business hours (Pacific Time Zone).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/30/03

By: _____

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O I P E JC87
JAN 30 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. 09/265,073
Filing Date . . . . . March 9, 1999
Inventor . . . . . David K. Ovard et al.
Assignee . . . . . Micron Technology, Inc.
Group Art Unit 2745
Examiner . . . . . M. Shimizu
Attorney's Docket No. MI40-179
Title: "Wireless Communication Systems, Interrogators and Methods of Communicating Within a Wireless Communication System"

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE ACCOMPANYING RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 30, 2002 OFFICE ACTION

In the Claims

The claims have been amended as follows. Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikeouts~~ indicate deletions.

1. (Amended) A wireless communication system comprising:

an interrogator including:

a housing including circuitry configured to generate a forward link communication signal;

communication circuitry configured to communicate the forward link communication signal; and

a communication station remotely located with respect to the housing and configured to receive the forward link communication signal from the communication circuitry and to radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal; ~~and~~

a remote communication device configured to receive the forward link wireless signal; and

wherein the circuitry of the housing comprises a transmitter configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal.

11. (Amended) An interrogator of a wireless communication system comprising:

a housing including circuitry configured to generate a forward link communication signal;

communication circuitry outside of the housing and coupled with the circuitry and configured to communicate the forward link communication signal; ~~and~~

a communication station remotely located with respect to the housing and including an antenna coupled with the communication circuitry and configured to radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal; and

wherein the circuitry of the housing comprises a transmitter configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal.

21. (Amended) An interrogator of a wireless communication system comprising:

a housing including circuitry configured to generate a plurality of forward link communication signals; ~~and~~

a plurality of communication stations remotely located with respect to the housing and individually configured to receive at least one of the forward link communication signals from the housing and radiate a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the at least one forward link communication signal; and

wherein the circuitry of the housing is configured to generate the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal.

27. (Amended) A method of communicating within a wireless communication system comprising:

providing an interrogator and at least one remote communication device;

generating a forward link communication signal using circuitry within a housing of the interrogator;

communicating the forward link communication signal from the housing using communication circuitry;

receiving the forward link communication signal from the communication circuitry within a communication station of the interrogator remotely located from the housing;

radiating a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal using the communication station; ~~and~~

receiving the forward link wireless signal within the at least one remote communication device; and

wherein the generating comprises generating the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal using the circuitry within the housing.

35. (Amended) A method of communicating within a wireless communication system comprising:

providing an interrogator having a housing and at least one communication station remotely located from the housing;

generating a forward link communication signal using circuitry within the housing;

communicating the forward link communication signal from the housing using communication circuitry;

receiving the forward link communication signal from the communication circuitry within the communication station; ~~and~~

radiating a forward link wireless signal corresponding to the forward link communication signal using the communication station; and

wherein the generating comprises generating the forward link communication signal comprising a modulated signal using the circuitry within the housing.

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